

Mineral Industry Surveys

For information, contact:

Stephen M. Jasinski, Phosphate Rock Commodity Specialist
U.S. Geological Survey
983 National Center
Reston, VA 20192
Telephone: (703) 648-7711, Fax: (703) 648-7757
E-mail: sjasinsk@usgs.gov

Hoa P. Phamdang (Data)
Telephone: (703) 648-7965
Fax: (703) 648-7975
E-mail: hphamdan@usgs.gov

Internet: <http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals>

MARKETABLE PHOSPHATE ROCK IN MARCH 2007

U.S. marketable phosphate rock production in March was 2.5 million metric tons (Mt), which was 14% higher than in February, according to the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). Cumulative production for January to March was slightly lower than in same period of 2006.

Phosphate rock used in the United States in March was 2.6 Mt, a 12% increase over that of February. Reported use of phosphate rock in January to March was 3% higher than in same period of 2006. U.S. producer stocks were slightly lower than in February and 13% lower than in March 2006.

Imports of phosphate rock were estimated based on U.S. Census Bureau figures and export data from the Moroccan producer. Morocco supplies more than 99% of the phosphate rock imported into the United States; however, the U.S. Census Bureau suppresses much of the phosphate rock data from Morocco. Table 4 show phosphate rock exports from Morocco for the first quarter 2007. U.S. imports from Morocco were 27% higher than in the first quarter 2006.

Estimated apparent consumption for 2007, based on annualized use and trade data, was 32.7 Mt, compared with 32.6 Mt in 2006.

TABLE 1
U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS¹

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Marketable production	Sold and/or used	Ending stocks ²
2006:			
January-March	7,060	7,270	XX
March	2,570	2,370	6,500
April	2,570	2,570	6,540
May	3,000	2,540	7,000
June	2,590	2,510	7,260
July	2,540	2,590	6,600
August	2,800	2,660	6,750
September	2,470	2,460	6,750
October	2,530	2,950	6,210
November	2,060	2,070	6,210
December	2,470	2,570	6,120
January-December	30,100	30,200	XX
2007:			
January	2,340	2,590	5,880
February	2,200	2,320	5,750
March	2,510	2,590	5,680
Total	7,050	7,500	XX

XX Not applicable.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Includes inventory adjustments.

TABLE 2
U.S. IMPORTS OF PHOSPHATE ROCK¹

(Thousand metric tons and thousand dollars)

Period	Quantity	Value ²
2006:		
January-March	244	9,280
March	193	9,460
April	115	5,720
May	126	5,890
June	256	16,000
July	135	6,400
August	129	4,530
September	155	9,030
October	124	8,840
November	55	2,240
December	398	18,700
January-December	1,930	96,100
Total year ³	2,400	115,000
2007:		
January	62	3,800
February	57	2,360
March	180	13,800
Total	299	20,000

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Cost, insurance, and freight values at U.S. ports.

³Includes an estimate for data suppressed by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau; data on the majority of phosphate rock imports from Morocco were suppressed by Census.

TABLE 3
COMPARATIVE U.S. PHOSPHATE ROCK STATISTICS

(Million metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005	2006	2007 ^{e, 1}
Marketable production	36.2	30.1	28.7
Sold or used by producers:	35.2	30.2	30.4
Yearend stocks	6.8	6.1	5.7
Imports for consumption ^e	2.6	2.4	2.3
Average value per ton	\$40.87	\$48.05	NA
Apparent consumption ^{e, 2, 3}	37.8	32.6	32.7

^eEstimated. NA Not available.

¹Annualized data.

²Data may not add to totals shown because of independent rounding.

³Calculated as domestic sold or used plus imports.

TABLE 4
MOROCCAN
PHOSPHATE ROCK EXPORTS¹
JANUARY - MARCH

(Thousand metric tons)

Country of destination	Quantity
Argentina	42
Austria	35
Belgium	76
Brazil	188
Bulgaria	41
Canada	66
Colombia	14
Croatia	78
France	56
Germany	20
India	304
Indonesia	159
Italy	17
Japan	50
Korea, Republic of	139
Lithuania	126
Mexico	237
New Zealand	180
Norway	8
Pakistan	42
Poland	258
Portugal	25
Romania	64
Salvador	9
Spain	405
Turkey	75
United States	600
Venezuela	17
Total	3,330

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

Source: Office Cherifien des Phosphates--
Casablanca, Morocco.